

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/622,122

Examiner

Jason L. Savage

Applicant(s)

WIJENBERG ET AL.

Art Unit

1775

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 7-18-03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-43 and 45-51.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20070404

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____

JENNIFER MCNEIL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

4/10/7

Election/Restrictions

Claims 1, 3-15 are directed to an allowable product. Pursuant to the procedures set forth in MPEP § 821.04(B), claims 16-43 and 45-51, previously withdrawn from consideration as a result of a restriction requirement, are hereby rejoined and fully examined for patentability under 37 CFR 1.104.

Because all claims previously withdrawn from consideration under 37 CFR 1.142 have been rejoined, **the restriction requirement as set forth in the Office action mailed on 6-16-06 is hereby withdrawn.** In view of the withdrawal of the restriction requirement as to the rejoined inventions, applicant(s) are advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Once the restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Anthony Venturino on 4-4-07.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification:

In the amendment to the specification filed 11-4-03 adding the paragraph
CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION, in the last line after "10/060,117"
insert --, now US Patent No. 6,796,484--.

In the Claims:

16. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a brazing sheet product comprising:

a core sheet,

on at least one side of said core sheet a clad layer made of an aluminum alloy containing silicon in an amount in the range of 4 to 14% by weight, and

on at least one outersurface of said clad layer a diffusion layer comprising nickel-tin alloy,

wherein there is a layer comprising nickel or nickel-alloy between the outersurface of said clad layer and the diffusion layer which method comprises the steps of:

(a) providing an aluminum base substrate layer comprising the clad layer made of an aluminum alloy comprising silicon in an amount in the range of 4 to 14% by weight coupled to the core sheet,

(b) applying a metal layer comprising nickel or nickel-alloy onto at least one

Art Unit: 1775

outersurface of said aluminum base substrate,

(c) applying a metal layer comprising tin or tin-alloy onto the outersurface of the layer comprising nickel or nickel-alloy, and

(d) subjecting the coated brazing product to a diffusion annealing treatment by holding the plated brazing product at a temperature in the range of 100 to 500°C for a period of 1 sec. to 300 minutes to form ~~on the outersurface of said aluminum base substrate~~ the diffusion layer comprising nickel-tin alloy.

In claim 29, line 2, delete "a soaking time" and insert therefore --said period, said period being--.

In claim 30, line 2, delete "a soaking time" and insert therefore --said period, said period being--.

In claim 33, line 13, after "10:" insert --(0.5 to 9)--.

41. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16, ~~wherein the diffusion annealing treatment is to form a layer comprising nickel on the outersurface of said aluminum base substrate layer and a diffusion layer comprising nickel-tin alloy on the outersurface of said layer comprising nickel~~ 33, wherein the mol-ratio of Ni:Sn is in the range of 10:(0.5 to 6).

Claims 1, 3-43 and 45-51 are allowed.

Art Unit: 1775

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason L. Savage whose telephone number is 571-272-1542. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jennifer McNeil can be reached on 571-272-1540. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Jason Savage
4-4-07



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4/10/7